



**PEGGY ANN MILTON
COUNTY CLERK**

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DATE: September 9, 2003

TO: Candidates for General Primary Election
March 16, 2004

FROM: Miriam Nastasiak, Elections Administrator

RE: Petition Filing Packet

Enclosed are the following forms which are prescribed by Illinois Law and/or required by the State Board of Elections for candidates running for county-wide office, county board, or precinct committeeman. Please be sure to have all forms notarized prior to filing with our office. If forms are not notarized, we will notarize them for you, but you will be relegated to the back of any existing queue and your file submission will reflect a later time.

1. Code of Fair Campaign Practices (optional) – If you plan to file this statement, DO NOT bind this document with your petition packet. Please submit it separately at the time-stamping station when you file.
2. Statement of Candidacy - The candidate's name should appear in exactly the same form on the Statement of Candidacy and the Petition Sheets. Our office will certify every candidate's name as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition (page #1). Please see 10 IL CS 5/7-17, 8-8.1 and 10-5.1 and SB 428 for information on designation of names on petitions or nomination papers.
3. Loyalty Oath (optional) - The following cases have held the Loyalty Oath to be unconstitutional: **Indiana v. Whitcomb**, 94 S. Ct. 656 and **Communist Party v. Ogilvie**, 357 F. Supp. 105.
4. Nominating Petitions – The packet contains original petition sheets. Duplication of this sheet is permitted prior to circulation.
5. Certificate of Deletions – In order to delete signatures, established party candidates must file State Board of Election's form P-2A.

6. Statement of Economic Interests

Please be advised that these forms are subject to legal attack by objectors if improperly completed. Some examples of improper forms include but are not limited to:

- a. Failure to describe the office sought or the district to be represented.
- b. Failure to have the signatures of a sufficient number of voters registered in the district.
- c. Failure to properly fill out and include the Certificate of Deletion form.
- d. Failure to include EIS receipts.
- e. Failure to properly bind petition packet.
- f. Failure to provide proper residential address.

You are strongly advised to obtain legal advice on the following subjects: (1) your legal qualifications for office; (2) the proper method for completing the petition forms with respect to the office; (3) the minimum number of signatures required; and (4) the qualifications of the signers and circulators, etc. Please refer to your attorney or the candidate's guide issued by the State Board of Elections for any specific questions you may have. This guide and other pertinent information will be available at <http://www.elections.state.il.us>.

September 16, 2003 – FIRST DAY TO CIRCULATE PETITIONS -

Petitions can be picked up in the County Clerk's office. The office of the County Clerk is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

December 8, 2003 – FIRST DAY TO FILE PETITION PACKETS AT 8:00 am in the County Clerk's office.

Any person filing at 8:00 am on December 8, 2003 when the office opens for business must have their petitions notarized and ready to be file stamped. If there are two or more candidates seeking the same office for the same party filing at 8:00 am (this includes all mail received that morning), a lottery will be conducted for ballot placement at a later date. **STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY AND ECONOMIC INTEREST STATEMENTS MUST BE FILED WITH PETITIONS** (Candidates who file petitions with the County Clerk and have filed a current economic interest statement for the same office with McLean County do not have to file an additional statement but must have the receipt from the original filing attached to petitions).

December 15, 2003 – LAST DAY TO FILE PETITIONS

A spreadsheet suggesting the minimum requirement for signatures in enclosed.

Enclosure

Suggested Minimum Signature Requirements for 2004 General Primary Election

Office	Democrat	Republican
County-Wide Office	98	177
County Board	25 min.	25 min.
Precinct Committeemen	10 min.	10 min.

We encourage you to acquire more signatures than required. If a signature check is requested and a person was not listed as a registered voter, that signature would be removed from your petition. This could result in an insufficient amount of required signatures.

The following figures were used in calculating the above suggested signature requirements:

- 19,568 – The highest vote total among McLean County voters for a Democrat candidate for any office in the 2002 General Election.
- 35,365 – The highest vote total among McLean County voters for a Republican candidate for any office in the 2002 General Election.